Health centres in Arunachal Pradesh

1886. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NGOs propose to control and run the health centres in Arunachal Pradesh, the first State to make NGOs an integral part of the healthcare system in the area;

(b) whether it is a Centrally funded project or operated on sharing basis;

(c) whether this novel project is also proposed to be run in other States i.e., Orissa, Karnataka, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The Government of India has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 285 crore to the State of Arunachal Pradesh for 2005-06 under a three year Pilot Project on Public Private Partnership under which 16 PHCs (one from each district of Arunachal Pradesh) will be handed over to NGOs by the Government of Arunachal Pradesh.

(b) It is a Centrally funded project with 90% funding from the Central Government and 10% by the State Government.

(c) Under the National Rural Health Mission, Public Private Partnership for Public Health Goals is one of the important components and proposals are examined on the basis of the requirements projected by the State Governments in their Action Action Plan.

(d) Twenty four PHCs in Karnataka, one PHC and three CHCs in Gujarat, two PHCs in Orissa are run by NGOs.

Unethical nexus of doctors and pharma companies

1887. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is nexus between the doctors, chemists and the diagnostic labs and they are fleecing the customers in connivance with each other;

(b) whether Government are also aware that the doctors are being offered foreign trips, air tickets for prescribing the anti-cancer drugs of the respective companies;

(c) the steps Government are taking to stop such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) While no specific complaints have been received in this regard, as per the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002, a physician shall not give, solicit, or receive nor shall he offer to give solicit or received, any gift, gratuity, commission or bonus in consideration of or return for the referring, recommending or procuring of any patient for medical, surgical or other treatment. A physician shall not directly, or indirectly, participate in or be a party to act of division, transference, assignment, subordination, rebating, splitting or refunding of any fee for medical, surgical or other treatment. This shall apply with equal force to the referring, recommending or procuring by a physician or any person, specimen or material for diagnostic purposes or other study/work. The violation of any of the provisions of the said regulations will invite disciplinary proceedings. Further, an aggrieved party can also take recourse to legal remedies under Consumer Protection Act, 1996, in cases where doctors harass the patients by such unethical practices.

Commercialization of medical education

†1888. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the rempant commercialization of medical education throughout the country and that medical colleges are charging huge capitation fee from the students;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether due to lack of money, competent and hardworking students are unable to get admissions in medical colleges?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.